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### **Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend paragraph [0092] of the specification as shown below.

Replacement paragraph [0092] follows:

[0092] Referring now to the drawings and to Figures 2-3 in particular, a first embodiment of a hinge plate 50 according to the invention is shown comprising a connector member 52 having a first end 54 and a second end 56. The connector member 52 has a first lateral member 58 and a second lateral member 60 pivotally mounted thereto by a first hinge 62 and a second hinge 64, respectively. Each of the first and second lateral members 58 and 60, as well as the connector member 52, preferably comprises a planar member having several teeth 66. The teeth 66 are typically formed by a stamping operation which forms the teeth 66 from material making up the planar member so that the teeth 66 are bent rearwardly from the planar member, leaving slots in the planar member formerly occupied by the material making up the teeth. The teeth 66 are preferably provided on the connector member 52, the first lateral member 58 and the second lateral member 60 in sufficient number and spacing so as to comprise an effective connector surface when fastened to a wood lumber member. Each of the first and second lateral members 58 and 60 as well as the connector member 52 having the array of teeth 66 thereon are commonly referred to in the lumber industry as a "nail plate."